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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN ECO-NOMIC ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 20, 1921

In the interest of a more economical administration, it was President Hollander's decision in March to dispense with the customary spring meeting of the Executive Committee. The Secretary has therefore been obliged to submit various motions to the members of the Committee by mail. The following votes were thus made:

On April 6: That the President and Secretary of the Association be authorized to arrange to hold the next Annual Meeting of the Association at Pittsburgh.

On April 16: That in accordance with the decision of the judges in the Prize Essay competition on "What Can a Man Afford" the first Karelsen prize of \$1000 be awarded to Professor Paul H. and Dorothy Douglas of the University of Chicago and the second prize of \$500 be awarded to Mr. Carl Joslyn of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and that the Treasurer be authorized to make such payments.

On April 16: That the publication of the Handbook of the Association be dispensed with for the year 1921.

On October 7: That the Secretary be authorized to send complimentary copies of the American Economic Review to a limited number of European economists recommended by Professor E. R. A. Seligman for the years 1921 and 1922.

On November 5, a motion submitted, That the Executive Committee of the American Economic Association favors the general plan of placing the scientific bureaus of the Government at Washington under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, with the view to developing government science to the highest possible efficiency, by affording scientific workers permanent tenure of office, greater freedom in investigation, non-interference of politicians, and adequate salaries, was lost by vote of the Executive Committee, 3 voting for and 7 against it.

During the year the following appointments were made to represent the American Economic Association:

Professor F. W. Taussig at the Inauguration of Dr. James Rowland Angell to the Presidency of Yale University, June 23.

Professors W. F. Willcox and Irving Fisher at the Second International Eugenics Congress, New York, September 22-8.

Professor Geo. E. Barnett at the Annual Meeting of the Personnel Research Federation, November 21.

Dr. H. C. Taylor at the Congressional hearings on the book sections of the Tariff Bill, Washington, December 21.

Through the kindness of Mr. Ephraim A. Karelsen, the Secretary met Mr. Clarence C. Vernam, of Street and Smith, Publishers, New

York City, who agreed to finance the publication of the first and second prize esays of the Karelsen competition on "What Can a Man Afford," as a supplement to the December number of the American Economic Review. Delays by one of the authors in preparing copy and proofs made it impossible to mail the Supplement with the December Review, but it is in the press and will be forthcoming in January.

The Secretary received from Mr. Ephraim A. Karelsen a demand note for \$1750 for three prizes for a second competition to be conducted by the American Economic Association on the subject "The Relations of Capital and Labor." Mr. Karelsen has also agreed to provide for the financing of the publication of the prize essays if they prove to merit publication. The terms and regulations governing this contest have been published in the American Economic Review, in circulars to members, subscribers, libraries, universities, manufacturers' associations, labor organizations, trade papers, etc. The members are asked to promote the publicity of this competition.

Under authority granted by the Executive Committee to the Secretary, he has proceeded as follows in the sale of the surplus publications of the American Economic Association:

An inventory of the publications was made by the Secretary in person; complete statistical sheets were prepared, showing the number of copies of each publication in stock and how each was bound; these sheets were sent to the members of the Executive Committee with requests for suggestions as to the number of copies to be retained by the Association, discounts at which sales should be made, preferences to be shown as among purchasers, etc. A synthesis of replies to this questionnaire was prepared and sent to the members of the Executive Committee for approval before it was published in the Review; notice of the sale terms was then put in the June and September numbers of the Review.

The sales to date have been almost exclusively to members and libraries, many of them embracing the opportunity to complete their sets and a dozen or more others buying complete sets. The sales will continue until March 1, when all publications for which the demand has been at all active in recent years will be reserved and the rest pulped.

The following table indicates the changes in membership of the Association during the year:

| Members and subscribers in December, 1920 | | 2866 |
|---|------|------|
| Annual members in December, 1920 | 2213 | |
| Members resigned in 1921 | 143 | |
| Removed for lack of address | 14 | |
| Members dropped for non-payment of dues | 82 | |

| Annual members changed to life members | 17 17 | 273 | |
|--|---------------|-------------|------|
| New annual members | | 1940 290 | |
| Total annual members in 1921 | 84 | 2230 | |
| Died | _4 | | |
| Annual members changed to life members New life members in 1921 | 80 17 5 | | |
| Total life members in December, 1921 | 4 1 | 102 3 | |
| Total members in December, 1921 | 565 73 | 2335 | |
| New subscribers in 1921 | 492 100 | 592 | 2927 |
| Net gain in members and subscribers, 1921 | | | 61 |

The following comments on these figures are pertinent:

- 1. The increase of life members by 22 is quite without precedent, the cause being the decision to enroll as life members a number of those who contributed \$100 or more to the Deficit Fund raised by the Special Finance Committee.
- 2. The number of members lost by resignation and removed for non-payment of dues was 86 higher than the preeding year, due largely to the unfavorable economic conditions of the country.
- 3. The special membership campaign that was to have been waged during the year was not very successfully prosecuted.

Among the other special activities of the Secretary's office the past year may be mentioned:

- 1. The editing of the March Supplement containing the Papers and Proceedings of the Thirty-third Annual Meeting;
- 2. The editing of the December Supplement containing the Karelsen Prize Essays on "What Can a Man Afford?"
- 3. The coöperation given to the Special Finance Committee, by circularizing all the members for contributions, acknowledging all contributions, collecting the pledges made at Atlantic City, etc.
- 4. The cooperation given the Special Membership Committee by extending invitations to recommended persons, providing Chairman Barnett with frequent lists showing the activity of the members of his

Committee, circularizing special groups of prospects, conducting the campaign for southern Connecticut, etc.

The Association has lost to the Grim Reaper through the year the following members:

HENRY C. ADAMS, (former President)
CHARLES W. AMES
CHARLES D. BARRY
HOLMES BECKWITH
S. J. CARPENTER
JOHN SPENCER CLARK (Life Member)
GUSTAV COHN (Honorary Member)
M. A. DEAN
JAMES H. DEMPSEY
WILLIAM P. GOODWIN
WILLIAM E. HARDING, (Life Member)

GEO. B. HENDRICKS
WALTER HENNIG
WAYNE MACVEAGH (Life Member)
H. W. MONTGOMERY
WILLIAM H. PRICE
C. A. PROUTY
T. C. RICHMOND
JACOB SCHMUCKLER
LOUIS B. SCHRAM
HENRY O. UNDERWOOD

Respectfully submitted.

RAY B. WESTERFIELD, Secretary.